

REMARKS

Applicant has modified the claims to further specify that the mixed signal specified is comprised of signal charges that are originally generated by pixels of a common row that are separated by at least one intervening pixel whose signal charge is not included in the mixed signal. Applicant submits that the art of record provides no teaching or suggestion of this advance in the art. Applicant has also added new claims that specifies the operation described in Figures 14 and 15 where mixed signal charges from a first row are separated by charges from a second row. Ishigami merely describes mixing pixels from separate rows.

There is simply no teaching or suggestion in the prior art of Applicants claimed signal processing wherein signal charges from separated pixels of a common row are mixed together.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the prior art rejections in light of the claim modifications.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 10/6/04


Robert J. Depke
HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLC
131 S. Dearborn, 30th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Tel: (312) 263-3600
Attorney for Applicant

(Reg. #37,607)

Appl. No. 09/249,463
Amdt. Dated October 6, 2004
Response to Office Action mailed April 6, 2004



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on 10/6/04 in an envelope addressed to:

**Mail Stop Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. P. [unclear]".

Attorney for Applicants